



BOROUGH OF WALLSEND.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 1905.



WALLSEND-ON-TYNE :

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ANNUAL REPORT,

1905.

TO THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION OF WALLSEND.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1905.

Locality.	Area in Acres.	Inhabited Houses 1905.	Population, 1905.	Estimated Popu- lation to the middle of year 1905.
Wallsend Urban	1,202	5,025	23,500	23,500

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered to the 31st December, 1905, was 923, giving a rate of 39·2 per thousand. Last year it was 40·5 per thousand.

DEATHS.

For the same period 300 deaths are returned, excluding three out of the district, and giving a death rate of 12·7 per thousand. Last year's rate was 15·2 per thousand. Excess of births over deaths—623. Last year's was 569.

DEATH RATES OF PREVIOUS YEARS :

1901	1902	1903	1904
17·04	16·6	15·6	15·2

AGES :—118 were under one year.

33 between 1 and 5 years.

16 „ 5 „ 15 „

26 „ 15 „ 25 „

72 „ 25 „ 65 „

35 above 65 years.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The rate per thousand births registered this year amounts to 127·8. Last year it was 153·5.

Though the deaths under one year per thousand births showed a decrease of 26·63 when compared with the previous year, the mortality at this age is still unwarrantably high. I propose to discuss under five heads the causes which, in my opinion, chiefly contribute towards our high infant mortality.

1. The totally inadequate period of rest which most mothers obtain immediately after delivery. The majority of women can only afford complete rest in bed for about a week, and consequently are unable to recover their strength properly; their milk becomes deficient in quantity and poor in quality, and with the object of remedying these conditions the mothers frequently resort to stimulants, which in many instances exert a most detrimental effect upon both mother and child. Moreover, in consequence of the high rents now demanded (owing in great measure to the greatly enhanced value of land), the wages of the husband are frequently inadequate for the proper maintenance of the family, and the nursing mother is unable to procure necessary support.

2. Either from the above causes or from selfish motives, infants in increasing numbers are quickly weaned, and in consequence are deprived of the nourishment which above all other influences tends to reduce the deaths occurring under one years.

3. Ignorance on the mothers' part as to the proper method of feeding infants brought up by hand, and frequently, in addition, great carelessness, especially in the direction of cleanliness—of the child's body, its clothing and its feeding bottles. The lamentable results of ignorance, or carelessness, or both are seen every day in this Borough, one child on an average dying in every 3·09 days of the year, without completing its first year of life.

4. The small size of many of the rooms, and more particularly the bedrooms—in the latter especially—ventilation in the majority of cases is most inadequate, and the growing infant, which requires every sanitary surrounding for the rapid development which under normal conditions would take place, lives in a poisonous atmosphere for at least eight out of every twenty-four hours.

5. Intemperance of the parents—one or both. It is hardly necessary to point out that intemperance, in the case of either parent, reduces the income so greatly needed for domestic purposes, and in the case of the mother not only implies neglect of every maternal duty, but in the nursing mother exerts a most injurious effect upon the infant. The deleterious effects of intemperance are still further increased by the inferior quality of spirits frequently supplied. The Government incur a great responsibility in permitting the sale of this inferior quality, their only test being the specific gravity of the liquor, and provided this be correct, *i.e.*, the spirit is not diluted beyond the extent permissible, it is allowed to pass, and large quantities of whiskey, for example, manufactured from Indian Corn and other unsuitable materials instead of from pure malt, are sold; liquor of the above description being, in my opinion, totally unfit to be drunk.

I here append the several death rates in the various Wards:—

Northumberland gives a rate of 7·7 per 1000.

Buddle	„	„	10·7	„
Holy Cross	„	„	12·1	„
Carville	„	„	12·9	„
Hadrian	„	„	16·9	„
Wallsend	„	„	19·2	„

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

			1905.		1904.
Small Pox	...	...	12	...	53
Diphtheria	...	...	26	...	32
Erysipelas	...	...	17	...	25
Enteric Fever	...	...	8	...	16
Scarlet Fever	...	...	49	...	64
			<hr/> 112		<hr/> 190

DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

			1905.		1904.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1	...	1
Small Pox	...	...	1	...	2
Diphtheria	...	...	4	...	5
Enteric Fever	...	...	3	...	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	7	...	34
Measles ...	...	...	3	...	2
			<hr/> 19		<hr/> 47

CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.

			1905.		1904.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	18	...	24
Enteric Fever	...	...	4	...	4
Diphtheria	...	...	8	...	7

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

There were 4 from Diphtheria, 3 from Enteric Fever, 1 from Scarlet Fever, 3 from Measles, and 1 from Small Pox. From the above we get a death rate for the year of '46 per 1000.

Births for each quarter and Births in the separate Wards.

BIRTHS.				BIRTHS IN EACH DISTRICT FOR THE QUARTER.						
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	North- b'land.	Buddle	Car- ville.	Holy Cross.	Had- rian.	Wall- send.	Total.
January ...	41	29	70	10	9	10	27	4	10	70
February ...	26	24	50	3	7	1	23	8	8	50
March ..	45	39	84	5	12	9	30	11	17	84
	112	92	204	18	28	20	80	23	35	204
April ...	48	44	92	10	17	12	29	11	13	92
May ...	38	35	73	10	16	4	21	11	11	73
June ..	35	37	72	5	13	15	18	6	15	72
	121	116	237	25	46	31	68	28	39	237
July ...	37	41	78	6	11	14	28	8	11	78
August ...	35	45	80	14	12	10	24	4	16	80
September	38	47	85	7	21	11	24	9	13	85
	110	133	243	27	54	35	76	21	40	243
October ...	33	36	69	5	10	7	30	7	10	69
November	41	42	83	4	21	12	32	2	12	83
December	48	39	87	7	14	7	29	6	24	87
	122	117	239	16	45	26	91	15	46	239

COW BYRES. — These have all been visited and have given complete satisfaction.

WATER SUPPLY.—This has been excellent all the year round.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS.—I enclose a list which I have sent to the Home Office. I have inspected all of them and have no fault to find.

THOMAS WILSON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

For the Year ending December 31st, 1905.

TO THE WALLSEND BOROUGH COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

During the year the following Notices have been served and complied with, viz.:—

DRAINS.

Choked Drains ...	...	...	...	...	34
Old Drains taken out and system re-modelled	...				4
Old Drains partially abolished and sealed off from Sewer					1

WATER CLOSETS.

Water Closet fixed where none existed	...	...	...	1
Water Closets fixed in place of defective closets	...			4
Ventilation of Water Closets improved	...	...	...	3

MISCELLANEOUS.

Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	5
House roofs and spouts repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Wash Houses repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Floors re-laid and repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Stairs renewed and repaired	...	...	...	...	8
Yard Surfaces repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Limewashing of staircases, passages, etc.	...	...	...	...	35
Box Closet Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	18
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	9
Sink Waste Pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Wet Closets	...	...	...	...	53
Total	...	...	...	...	218

New Surface Drains inspected and passed	...	...	43
New Private Drains inspected and passed	71

SLAUGHTER HOUSES, Etc.

Slaughter Houses upon Register	14
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The Slaughter Houses, Pork Shops, Cow Byres, Dairies, Milk, Fish, and Fruit Shops, Bakeries and Common Lodging Houses have been visited at regular intervals. Only one case of unsound meat was discovered, this being the carcase of a beast infected with tuberculosis, which, however, was never exposed for sale, and on being found to be unsound was immediately destroyed.

SMOKE NUISANCES.

Smoke Observations taken	...	...	...	6
Smoke Nuisances reported	...	...	...	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious cases reported	...	...	...	112
Patients removed to Hospital	...	...	...	42
Infected Houses visited	...	...	...	112
Houses Disinfected	...	...	...	119
Lots of Infected Bedding disinfected	...	...	...	123
Lots Infected Bedding destroyed	...	...	...	1

Houses are disinfected after fatal cases of Consumption, and all cases of infectious diseases are notified to the School Attendance Officers, who assist to prevent the spread of infectious disease.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Factories on Register	...	...	...	28
Workshops on Register	...	...	...	48

Under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, the small Factories and Workshops have been frequently visited, and found in good condition. The sanitary accommodation of three workshops have been improved, viz.:—

Box Closet fixed where none existed	...	...	1
Box Closets substituted in lieu of Privies and Ashpit	...	...	4
Workshop Floor drained with half channels and connected with proper drains to sewer	...	...	1

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse taken to sea by hopper including 1,356 tons of road sweepings	...	...	...	Tons. 12,015
Deposited upon Agricultural Land	...	...	...	300
Total amount of refuse removed				12,315

Our Ashpits and Box Closets were cleared once a week during the first seven months of the year under contract. During the remainder of the year the work has been executed by the Council's workmen and horses, and the box closets have been cleared and disinfected every week, and in a few cases twice per week, and the ashpits every fortnight. The work done by the Cleansing Department of the Council has been very satisfactory.

Number of Box Closets in Borough	...	...	4,992
Number of Ashpits in Borough	...	...	354

During the year 19 Ashpits have been removed and Box Closets substituted.

It is satisfactory to note the present healthy condition of the Borough, which is practically free from infectious disease.

WILLIAM JOHNSON,

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District of Wallsend-on-Tyne
during 1905 and Previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-residents in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered beyond the District	Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the District	
				Under 1 year.		At all Ages					Number	Rate.*
		Number	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	14,000	424	30.2	60	141.5	218	15.5	7	6		179	11.8
1896	15,000	472	31.46	57	120.3	185	12.7					
1897	16,000	524	32.7	75	124.12	202	11.8					
1898	17,000	582	34.2	118	202.7	292	17.1					
1899	18,000	693	38.5	136	193.36	358	19.8					
1900	20,000	748	35.6	97	129.6	303	15.1					
1901	21,000	830	39.5	142	139.5	348	17.04					
1902	21,500	856	39.8	119	139.01	360	16.7					
1903	22,500	891	40.5	127	141.4	345	15.6	1			344	15.6
1904	22,500	913	40.5	141	154.43	346	15.2	2			344	15.2
Averages for years. 1895-1904	18,730	693.3	36.3	107.2	148.4	295.7	15.6					
1905	23,500	923	39.2	118	127.8	300	12.7			3	303	12.8

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1202.

Total population of all ages	20,647	} At Census of 1901
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	4,881
Average number of persons per house	..	..	4.75

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1905 and Previous Years.

Names of Localities.	WHOLE DISTRICT.				CARVILLE.				BUDDLE				HADRIAN.				HOLY CROSS.				WALLSEND.				NORTHUMBERLAND.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1895	14,000	424	218	60	2726	150	68	22	3644	140	42	18	2365	86	38	16	5773	236	89	40	3650	114	63	28	2642	104	48	16
1896	15,000	472	185	57	3215	112	55	23	3884	170	44	17	2365	93	47	14	7570	246	69	28	3790	118	71	20	3100	117	74	17
1897	16,000	524	202	75	3276	121	65	26	3922	161	40	5	2365	89	26	9	7744	294	110	38	3832	124	57	25	3162	102	47	24
1898	17,000	582	292	118	3127	126	72	29	3595	157	37	14	2060	69	34	15	7877	309	105	45	3743	162	60	26	5736	90	38	12
1899	18,000	693	358	136																								
1900	20,000	748	303	97																								
1901	21,000	830	348	142																								
1902	21,500	856	360	119																								
1903	22,000	891	345	127																								
1904	22,500	913	346	141																								
Averages of years 1895 to 1904.	18,730	693.3	295.7	107.2																								
1905	23,500	923	300	118	3239	112	42	17	3525	147	38	17	2066	87	35	14	8707	315	106	39	2612	160	50	19	3719	86	29	12

TABLE III
Cases of Infectious Disease notified in Wallsend-on-Tyne during the Year 1905.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in whole District.						Total Cases Notified in each Locality.					No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.							
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					Carville.	Holy Cross.	Buddle.	Hadrian.	Wallsend.	Northum-berland.	Carville.	Holy Cross.	Buddle.	Hadrian.	Wallsend.	Northum-berland.	
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.													65 and up-wards.
Small-pox ..	12	..	3	..	3	6	..	8	1	..	2	1	..	8	1	..	2	1	
Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ..	26	1	15	5	2	3	..	9	4	2	3	4	3	2	..	..	1	2
Membranous Croup																			
Erysipelas ..	17	..	..	2	2	12	1	2	2	6	3	2	4	2	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	49	..	23	26	..	..	..	13	13	6	2	4	6	6	..	..	..	..
Typhus Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever ..	8	..	..	1	5	2	..	2	4	..	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	112	1	41	34	12	23	1	34	24	14	11	11	6	19	8	..	4	5	

ISOLATION HOSPITAL :—Wallsend, Willington Quay, and Howdon (in Holy Cross Ward).

TABLE
Causes of, and Ages at, Death in

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.						
	All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up-wards.
Small-pox	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Measles	3	2	1	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Whooping-cough.. ..	7	4	3	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria & Membraneous Croup	4	..	4	..	..	..	..
Croup	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Typhus .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever Enteric	3	..	..	1	2	..	..
Other Continued .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic Influenza	4	..	..	1	..	3	..
Cholera .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa	9	6	3	..	..	..	..
Enteritis	4	2	1	1	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Septic Diseases	3	3	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis	26	..	..	2	10	14	..
Other Tubercular Diseases	28	17	2	2	2	5	..
Cancer, Malignant Disease.. ..	16	1	..	..	..	9	6
Bronchitis	16	8	2	2	..	2	2
Pneumonia	28	9	8	3	2	3	3
Pleurisy .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Venereal Diseases	2	1	..	..	..	1	..
Premature Birth	17	17	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	5	..	..	..	2	3	..
Heart Diseases	8	..	..	..	..	6	2
Accidents	9	4	1	1	1	2	..
Suicides.. ..	3	..	..	..	..	3	..
All other causes	102	44	7	2	7	20	22
All causes	300	118	33	16	26	72	35

IV.

Wallsend-on-Tyne during Year 1905.

Deaths in or belonging to Localities (at all Ages).							Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
Car-ville.	Walls-end.	Had-ran.	Holy Cross.	Buddle.	Northum-berland.	Total.	
..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
..	..	..	3	..	..	3	..
..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
1	3	1	2	..	..	7	..
1	..	..	3	..	..	4	..
1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
..
3	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
..
..	1	..	..	..	3	4	..
..
..
2	2	1	..	1	3	9	..
1	..	1	..	1	1	4	..
..
..
..	1	..	1	1	..	3	..
1	4	5	10	5	1	26	..
6	6	2	9	3	2	28	..
2	2	1	7	..	4	16	..
2	2	..	8	2	2	16	..
3	5	4	12	3	1	28	..
..
..
..
..
1	..	..	1	..	..	2	..
3	..	3	6	2	3	17	..
1	2	1	1	..	..	5	..
2	2	..	2	1	1	8	..
1	1	3	2	2	..	9	..
..	..	..	3	..	..	3	..
16	19	14	29	13	11	102	..
47	50	36	101	34	32	300	..

TABLE V.
Infantile Mortality in the Borough of Wallsend-on-Tyne during the year 1905.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1 to 2 Weeks.	2 to 3 Weeks.	3 to 4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month	1 to 2 Months	2 to 3 Months	3 to 4 Months	4 to 5 Months	5 to 6 Months	6 to 7 Months	7 to 8 Months	8 to 9 Months	9 to 10 Months	10 to 11 Months	11 to 12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES—		2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5
Certified		2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5
Uncertified		2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5
COMMON INFECTIOUS DISEASES—																		
Small Pox																		
Chicken Pox																		
Measles																		
Scarlet Fever																		
Diphtheria																		
Whooping Cough																		
DIARRHOEAL DISEASES—																		
Diarrhoea, all forms																		
Enteritis																		
Gastritis																		
WASTING DISEASES—																		
Premature Birth		10	3	3	1	17												17
Congenital Defects																		
Injury at Birth																		
Want of Breast-milk																		
Atrophy, Debility																		
TUBERCULOUS DISEASES—																		
Tuberculous Meningitis																		
Tuberculous Peritonitis																		
Other Tuberculous Diseases																		
Erysipelas																		
Syphilis																		
Rickets																		
Meningitis																		
Convulsions																		
Bronchitis																		
Laryngitis																		
Pneumonia																		
Suffocation, Overlying																		
Other Causes																		
		30	9	11	2	52	6	7	13	4	7	6	8	1	7	..	7	118

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 300.